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### Students present research at UM events

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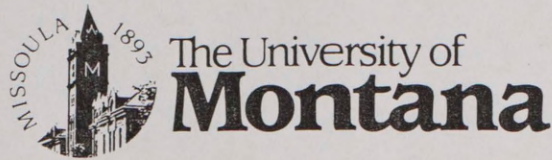
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## NEWS RELEASE

April 12, 2006

**Contact:** James McKusick, dean, UM Davidson Honors College, 243-2541, james.mckusick@umontana.edu; Karen Kaley, UMCUR coordinator, 243-2589, karen.kaley@mso.umt.edu; Justin Milliard, chair, Rocky Mountain GeoDays, 544-1363.

### STUDENTS PRESENT RESEARCH AT UM EVENTS

#### MISSOULA—

The sixth annual University of Montana Conference on Undergraduate Research will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, April 21, on the third floor of the University Center.

During the conference, more than 80 UM undergraduate students from disciplines in the arts, humanities, social sciences, physical sciences and natural sciences will present their research and creative activity in poster, oral and panel presentations.

The presentations are free and open to the public.

The conference's plenary lecture, "Why Undergraduate Research Makes Better Students and Better Professors," will be presented by UM wildlife population ecology Professor Scott Mills at 5 p.m. in the University Theater. An awards ceremony will follow, with more than \$700 to be given to the top student posters and presentations in each subject area.

The conference has become an annual tradition at UM since 2000, when the University hosted the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

"Undergraduate research is an important endeavor for students and faculty members," said James McCusick, dean of UM's Davidson Honors College. "It allows for mentoring and student engagement in all disciplines. In addition, many undergraduate research projects at UM

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are done with scholarship support, and for that we are truly grateful.”

For more information about the UM research conference, call Karen Kaley at 243-2589 or e-mail [karen.kaley@mso.umt.edu](mailto:karen.kaley@mso.umt.edu). Information also is available on the Web at <http://www.umt.edu/ugresearch>.

Rocky Mountain GeoDays, an opportunity for undergraduate geoscientists to share their research, will run concurrently with the annual Conference on Undergraduate Research this year. All GeoDays events also will be held Friday, April 21, on the third floor of the University Center, and the public is invited to attend presentations.

UM Department of Geology Assistant Professor Joel Harper will give the GeoDays keynote address, “Recent Catastrophic Glacier Changes: Does Climate Control Glaciers or Do Glaciers Control Climate?”

GeoDays offers a field trip Saturday, April 22, to explore geothermal activity in the area. Registration is required and space is limited. Cost of the field trip is \$10.

For information and a schedule for GeoDays or to register for the field trip, call Justin Milliard at 544-1363, e-mail [geodays@mso.umt.edu](mailto:geodays@mso.umt.edu) or visit <http://www.umt.edu/geology/geodays>.

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